

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: : Kosuke Nobuoka
Serial No. : 10/729,575
FOR : AUTOFOCUS APPARATUS
Filed : December 4, 2003
Examiner : Amy R. Hsu
Art Unit : 2622

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98.

The contents of this statement follow the outline of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a). By this Information Disclosure Statement, applicant wishes to bring the following documents to the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

U.S. Patents

	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Issue Date</u>
AA.	Kawano	5,877,806	March 2, 1999
AB.	Ohta	6,621,521	September 16, 2003
AC.	Ohta	6,989,864	January 24, 2006

Published US Application

	<u>Inventor</u>	<u>Pub. No.</u>	<u>Pub. Date</u>
AD.	Ohta	US-2005/0264681 A1	December 1, 2005

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted via the Patent Electronic Filing System (EFS) to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on:
July 20, 2007

John J. Torrente

July 20, 2007

Date of Signature

Signature

Foreign Documents

	<u>Country</u>	<u>Patent No.</u>	<u>Publication Date</u>
AE.	Japan	10-164603	June 19, 1998
AF.	Japan	08-130669	May 21, 1996
AG.	Japan	04-046471	February 17, 1992
AH.	Japan	10-042184	February 13, 1998
AI.	Japan	01-137886	May 30, 1989
AJ.	Japan	2003-274245	September 26, 2003
AK.	Japan	08-130670	May 21, 1996

The above references were cited in a Japanese Office Action dated May 29, 2007 of the counterpart Japanese Patent Application 2002-361942. A copy of the Japanese Office Action is enclosed without an English translation.

Enclosed are copies of the documents listed and translations thereof. Please note that a only a partial translation (abstract) is enclosed for Reference AG. (04-046471). Also note that reference AA. (US 5,877,806) corresponds to reference AF. (JP 08-130669). Additionally, references AB. (US 6,621,521), AC. (US 6,989,864), and AD. (US 2005/0264681) all correspond to reference AH. (JP 10-042184).

Also enclosed in duplicate, is an accompanying form equivalent to PTO-1449, listing the references cited by the applicant. The Examiner is respectfully requested to mark on one copy of the enclosed form that the Examiner has reviewed the listed documents and return the marked copy to applicant's undersigned attorneys at the below listed address.

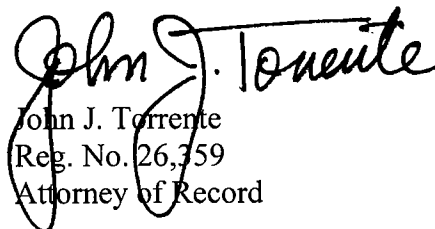
It is further submitted that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Please charge any fees for entry of this Statement to our Deposit Account 03-3415.

Dated: July 20, 2007

Respectfully submitted,

COWAN, LIEBOWITZ & LATMAN, P.C.
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New York, New York 10036-6799
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John J. Torrente
Reg. No. 26,359
Attorney of Record

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) B588-039 (25815.041)		Application Number 10/729,575		
				Applicant(s) Kosuke Nobuoka				
				Filing Date December 4, 2003		Group Art Unit 2622		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AA.	5,877,806	03/02/1999	Kawano				
	AB.	6,621,521	09/16/2003	Ohta				
	AC.	6,989,864	01/24/2006	Ohta				
U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS								
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	AD.	2005/0264681	12/01/2005	Ohta				
FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	AE.	10-164603	06/19/1998	JAPAN			✓	
	AF.	08-130669	05/21/1996	JAPAN			✓	
	AG.	04-046471	02/17/1992	JAPAN			partial	
	AH.	10-042184	02/13/1998	JAPAN			✓	
	AI.	01-137886	05/30/1989	JAPAN			✓	
OTHER DOCUMENTS <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>								
EXAMINER					DATE CONSIDERED			
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								

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	AF.	08-130669	05/21/1996	JAPAN			✓	
	AG.	04-046471	02/17/1992	JAPAN			partial	
	AH.	10-042184	02/13/1998	JAPAN			✓	
	AI.	01-137886	05/30/1989	JAPAN			✓	
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	Filing Date December 4, 2003	Group Art Unit 2622

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
	AJ.	2003-274245	09/26/2003	JAPAN			✓	
	AK.	08-130670	05/21/1996	JAPAN			✓	

OTHER DOCUMENTS *(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)*

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